

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re PATENT APPLICATION of

JOHNSON

Application No. 08/840,548

Filed: April 3, 1997

Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR FORMING
A CENTERED BORE FOR THE FEMORAL
STEM OF A HIP PROSTHESIS

Group Art Unit: 3309

Examiner: TUCKER, G.

November 5, 1997

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GROUP 330

AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner of
Patents & Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated August 5, 1997, please amend the subject application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Amend claim 1 as follows:

1. (Four times amended) An instrument for forming a centered bore in a femur in preparation for implantation of a femoral prosthesis, wherein the femur includes an intramedullary canal defined by an interior wall of cortical bone, the instrument comprising:
a handle joined to a proximal end of an elongated rod sized to be received within said canal; and
fins non-displaceably fixed at a distal end of the rod, and projecting outwardly in opposing directions from the rod in a single planar relationship, for engaging the interior wall of the cortical bone when said rod is inserted within the canal so as to center the rod relative to the wall.